

disturbances, terrorists, and paramilitary organizations in rear areas outside the zone of immediate combat.

- The CWC does prohibit the use of RCAs solely against combatants. In addition, according to the current international understanding, the CWC's prohibition on the use of RCAs as a "method of warfare" also precludes the use of RCAs even for humanitarian purposes in situations where combatants and noncombatants are intermingled, such as the rescue of downed air crews, passengers, and escaping prisoners and situations where civilians are being used to mask or screen attacks. However, were the international understanding of this issue to change, the United States would not consider itself bound by this position.

Upon receiving advice and consent of the Senate to ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, a new Executive order outlining U.S. policy on the use of RCAs under the Convention will be issued. I will also direct the Office of the Secretary of Defense to accelerate efforts to field non-chemical, non-lethal alternatives to RCAs for use in situations where combatants and noncombatants are intermingled.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
June 23, 1994.

Statement on Congressional Action on Health Care Reform

June 23, 1994

Under the leadership of Chairman Ford, the decisive action by the members of the House Education and Labor Committee has brought us one step closer to achieving our goal of universal coverage: guaranteed private insurance for every American that can never be taken away.

Chairman Ford has had a long, distinguished career in Congress, and his guidance throughout the health care reform process and his commitment to universal coverage will help us ensure that all Americans have the health security they want and deserve.

With today's action, for the first time ever, a committee in each House of Congress has reported a bill that guarantees universal coverage. They have broken the chokehold of special interests and, by choosing to cover everyone, have stood up instead for millions of hard working middle class Americans.

As we continue to move forward, and as momentum for reform builds, this committee action sends a clear signal to the American people that Congress is well on its way to making health care history this year.

Statement on Assistance to California

June 23, 1994

As earthquake recovery efforts have continued, the President's contingency fund has enabled our administration to respond to unforeseen problems. Most of the funds I am releasing today will help small business people in southern California who have had difficulty obtaining assistance until now.

NOTE: This statement was part of a statement by the Press Secretary on assistance to California.

Statement on the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism

June 23, 1994

The travel and tourism industry is one of the unsung heroes of our economy. Your businesses employ more than 6 million Americans and, equally important, international tourism is one sector of our economy that consistently generates a trade surplus. The White House Conference on Travel and Tourism will provide you and your colleagues an opportunity to meet with leaders in the executive branch and in Congress and, I hope, to develop a shared vision, both of the industry's future and of the role of the industry in our Nation's future.

NOTE: This statement was part of a White House press release announcing the conference.

Remarks at the Congressional Barbecue

June 23, 1994

Thank you very much. We want to welcome you back again this year. We want to thank you for braving, first, late votes and then a late rain in all this heat. And finally it's kind of cooling down and getting better.

We're delighted to see you, all of you here tonight. You are welcome here. This is, after all, your house, and we're sort of the temporary tenants, and we're having a good time. We're really looking forward to hearing Trisha Yearwood tonight. And I hope you've enjoyed all the wonderful food. And I'd like to ask that we give a round of applause to the people who provided that. *[Applause]*

Hillary and I have tried to make this event and the one we had last year fun, relaxing, nonpolitical, which is almost impossible in Washington. And only the heat reminds us of the atmosphere in which we must labor during the daylight hours. *[Laughter]* But we have really enjoyed having you here tonight.

I want to thank the Members who came and brought their family members, their friends, their staff members. It really helps us, I think, to get a feel for the human side of what we hope will be a very enjoyable night for you. And I think there's already been enough talking, and I'm ready for the music.

Would you like to say anything? She wants the music, too.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to country and western entertainer Trisha Yearwood.

Interview With Kevin Horrigan and Charles Brennan of KMOX Radio in St. Louis, Missouri

June 24, 1994

Representative Richard Gephardt. Hi, Kevin and Charles. We want to welcome the President of the United States today. We're on Air Force One, and we're going to be in St. Louis in a few minutes. And we welcome the President to our great city.

Q. And we welcome you, Mr. Clinton, to the voice of St. Louis, KMOX Radio.

The President. Thank you. It's good to be on KMOX, and it's good to be coming back to St. Louis.

Campaign Finance Reform

[At this point, an interviewer asked the President to justify raising \$40 million in campaign funds after having campaigned during the Presidential election to reform campaign financing.]

The President. I justify it because of the opposition policies of the Republican Party and all the special interest groups that have raised and spent far more money against us, attacking me and my policies and spreading disinformation to the American people. Let me say that all this time, ever since I've been in office, I have worked hard to pass a campaign finance reform bill, which would limit these kinds of contributions right across the board to both political parties and restore basically unfettered debate to the central position it ought to have in our political system.

But I don't believe in unilateral disarmament. The money that I have raised will be used to try to make sure that the Democratic parties throughout the country in these fall elections and our candidates will at least have a fighting chance to talk about our record and the facts and what we've done here. If we could change the rules for everybody, that's what we ought to do.

When I ran for President, I didn't even take any PAC money. And I have worked very, very hard to pass campaign finance reform laws and lobby reform laws which will make the system better. But until I do, it would be a mistake for the Democrats to just lay down and not raise any money, letting the Republicans and a lot of their allied groups have all the money in the world when they already have greater access to a lot of things like a lot of other media outlets than we do.

Q. Wouldn't you be setting a leadership example, though, if you were the first one to say, "Look, these \$15,000-a-table fund-raisers basically are way out of hand. I've got to put an end to this"?

The President. Well, I'm trying to put an end to it. All the Congress has to do is to